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## The relative participation and influence of female councillors in the decisions of the councils in Tanzania

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## Propositions

belong to the PhD dissertation

The relative participation and influence of female councillors in the decisions of the council in Tanzania

1. Increasing the number of female representatives through a quota system may not add anything if it is not accompanied by efforts to make the growing number have an impact on decisions (Meena 2009).
2. Male dominance has consequences in participation as it controls the extent to which women raise their voices in the decision making (Klugman et al. 2014).
3. Participation in decision making is a necessary condition to exert influence (Dahl 1957).
4. Sex is a possible determinant to councillors' participation but only when it is combined with institution position (*this thesis*).
5. The special-seat councillors are in the council as a measure to counterbalance the low number of women in decision making, however, they appear to be less active in terms of participation compared to other female councillors (*this thesis*).
6. Both the male councillors and the elected female councillors are more successful in the council than special-seat councillors (*this thesis*).
7. The small size of the group of elected female councillors is not without reason: it takes skill, resilience and determination for women to overcome the obstacles towards being elected in a male dominated society (*this thesis*).
8. The group of elected women with a reputation of being influential is just about the same size as the group of men considered influential in councils (*this thesis*).
9. The female councillors are not behind the male councillors as expected by this study, instead they are able to participate and they even have a higher success rate compared to male councillors (*this thesis*).
10. The variation in the amount of participation, number of successful attempts and success rate in the council is an outcome of how the councillors got their seat in the council (*this thesis*).

Idda Lyatonga Swai

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